

Movies pg 10

And let the Bride Wars begin



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Derks

Province's homicide hits new high

CRIME Alberta has never before seen more homicides than in 2008. Last year, 53 people were murdered in the province, a figure that nearly doubles 2007's rate, when 23 people were killed.

Of all the murders committed in 2008, seven were on the Hobbema reserve, a community with a meagre population of 12,000. Statistics released yesterday from the Edmonton RCMP show that 14 of the murders resulted from domestic violence.

The RCMP consider 77 per cent of the homicides to be solved, in that, charges have been sworn, said RCMP Cpl. Wayne Oakes. **METRO EDMONTON**

Canada pg 4

Sect is being persecuted, leader says

Music pg 15



Sam Roberts coast to coast

TV pg 16

Six degrees of separation

Dance Winter Light Festival opens up



Nancy Bromley, of the Vibe Tribe dance group, performs during the opening ceremonies of the first annual Winter Light Festival in Churchill square, Thursday evening. Many people braved the extreme cold to take in the celebration of all things wintry. The festival runs at various locations in the city until March 21, 2009.

Chief targets morale

Boyd says new hires will help relieve overworked cops

JEFF CUMMINGS
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News about half of all employees who admitted in a survey they considered quitting the Edmonton Police Service within the last year shouldn't deter people from pursuing a career in law enforcement, said Edmonton's top cop in an interview with Metro this week.

Edmonton Police Chief Mike Boyd said issues about low morale and huge workloads that are pushing some to consider leaving

the service is only a temporary issue as police are currently training more than 100 new recruits to fill vacant positions left by retiring officers.

"In the short term, there is no question that our officers, within two to three years in particular, their work and family life hasn't been in the kind of balance," said Boyd.

"But I think in the next 10 months, we are going to start to see these issues diminish, whereby officers will be able to enjoy for the next however how many years they want to be mem-

bers of the Edmonton Police Service."

Boyd said the service is in a period of transition and many officers are feeling the pinch when it comes to overtime, but added city cops and those just joining the service will get new supports not seen in many cities across the country.

Those supports could include childcare, something that could be a huge incentive for those considering a career in policing, said Boyd.

"We want to do some things that are innovative, in another means of saying

'come to the EPS,'" said Boyd.

Bill Pitt, a criminologist at Grant MacEwan, says the Edmonton Police Service is in "need of immediate and long-term help."

"Edmonton has been understaffed for 10 years, and there is simply no more give in the organization, so here we are almost at the breaking point," said Pitt.

"We need all levels of government to sit down and see what can be done immediately to assist this organization and a long-term plan to ensure we don't get into this situation again."

Idling could cost you

VICTORIA HANDSIDES
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BYLAW Drivers caught idling their vehicles longer than three minutes can expect a fine of \$250 under a new bylaw proposed by city council.

In a city report released Thursday, drivers can also face fines for idling a vehicle for three minutes in total in a 30-minute period.

And if motorists are found to be repeat offenders, they could face higher fines of up to \$10,000 by the courts under the Municipal Government Act.

The report says bylaw officers will also depend on citizens to snitch on drivers who idle for long periods in order for the officers to make a charge.

"No physical inspection will be undertaken, only verification of information provided through a witness statement," read the report. "The complainant will be required to attend court if the matter is contested."

Motorists are allowed to let their vehicles idle for longer than three minutes in frigid weather like what's been seen in Edmonton in recent weeks, but no limits have been set on how long it can be left running when temperatures are colder than -10°C.

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Avalanche risk closes highway

Mounties in Jasper are closing a popular highway as the risk of avalanches is too high for safe travel. Highway 93 will be closed in both north and southbound lanes to protect drivers until 2 p.m. today, or until the risk has been reduced. **METRO EDMONTON**

Local



Celebrating the Ox

Ring in the year of the Ox in a special Chinese New Year celebration on Jan. 31. People will be coming together to celebrate at the City Centre Mall with drumming, dragon dances, martial arts, music, carnival games, calligraphy, and a traditional Chinese fashion show. For more information, visit www.ecbea.org. **METRO EDMONTON**

2 arrested in holiday carjacking

CHARGES Two men have been arrested following a carjacking two days before Christmas.

A 29-year-old man was carjacked, driven to Devon, shot in the leg, and dumped on the side of the highway.

Two suspects, Lee James Lauman, 29, and John Steven Webber, 27, have each been charged with robbery, weapons and stolen property offences.

METRO EDMONTON

Housing sales expected to drop more than 10%

STARTS Edmonton housing sales will slump this year compared to what was seen in 2008, predicts the Realtors Association of Edmonton in its annual forecast Thursday.

The association says more than 15,000 homes will be sold through its Multiple Listing Service this year, compared to the 17,317 homes that were sold in 2008 — a drop of 10.5 per cent.

METRO EDMONTON



Video Prominent Canadians condemn Ottawa's stance on Gaza conflict at metronews.ca/canada

Video Michael Ignatieff vows low- and middle-income tax cuts to boost the economy at metronews.ca/canada



Heart-healthy donations made to dozens of schools

VICTORIA HANDSIDES
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A generous donation has made healthy, beating hearts a standard in dozens of city schools.

The Legion of Frontiersmen of the Commonwealth, a humanitarian organization, has donated \$80,000 to equip 28 high schools with portable defibrillators.

"We're thrilled," said Edmonton Catholic Schools spokeswoman Lori Nagy. "The health and safety of our students is always our first priority, and this helps us to ensure we have a life-saving device available in case of an emergency."

The donation comes after hockey player Trevor Forest fell to the ground during practice at a NAIT hockey arena in October.

A quick-thinking teammate grabbed a portable defibrillator off the wall, and gave Forest a life-saving shock that would ensure that he live to play another game.

"It's fantastic," he said yes-



Teacher Brad Stawnicky, left, demonstrates the use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) on Holy Trinity Grade 12 student James Schweiger, while Haley Kiryluk looks on during a simulation of a heart attack on the basketball court.

terday. "I wouldn't be here if one hadn't been put into the school to start with."

Twenty of the units are bound for public high schools. Eight are headed for Catholic schools.

Teachers have been given half-day classes to learn how

to operate the devices in case an emergency situation should arise.

Though instances of teenagers needing the assistance of the devices are rare, the organization plans to expand their program, in an effort to get the devices to

schools outside of Edmonton.

"For what it's worth, a heart attack can happen any time," Forest said. "I suppose you wouldn't think of young adults as being susceptible, but it really can happen to anyone when they least expect it."

**VICTORIA HANDSIDES/
METRO EDMONTON**

10 semis discovered in Edmonton man's car

FIREARMS Canada's border patrol in Coutts made a major find after stopping an Edmonton area-man who was driving back into Alberta from Montana on Jan. 3.

The Canada Border Services Agency said Thursday its officers at the border crossing seized 10 semi-automatic handguns, including one semi-automatic machine gun, 11 high capacity magazines and 300 rounds of ammunition found in the vehicle.

All of the firearms and the ammunition were found behind the panels of the vehicle, said the agency.

Adrian Le Mon Barnes, 30, was arrested and turned over by the agency to the RCMP in Lethbridge.

Barnes is facing 45 firearm-related charges, including possession of firearms for the purpose of trafficking and unauthorized importation of firearms.

He is expected to appear in court in Lethbridge on Jan. 28.

Sgt. Patrick Webb, a spokesman with the RCMP, said Barnes is from a rural area west of Edmonton and could not comment on whether or not he's known to police.

JEFF CUMMINGS/METRO EDMONTON

Unclaimed tickets hitting the landfill?

LOTTO Thousands of uncollected lottery dollars could be filling landfills each year.

Though jackpots in draw-based lottery tickets roll over if not claimed, money allocated for Scratch 'n Win tickets are divvied up between all tickets printed.

If a winning, unsigned ticket is tossed in the trash by someone who doesn't re-

alize they've won, the purchaser gives up all rights to that ticket as it leaves their hand.

"If you find an unsigned lottery ticket, then, yes, anyone can claim it," said Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission spokeswoman Lynn Hutchings-Mah.

She added the only real way to protect tickets is to

sign them on the back, and said many retailers won't redeem lottery tickets that aren't signed.

Western Canadian Lottery Corp. spokeswoman Andrea Marantz said there's no way to tell how many winning tickets get thrown away accidentally, not all tickets are sold through the course of a game.

Self-serve ticket checking machines were installed everywhere lottery tickets are sold in the fall of 2007. At first, the machines could only validate Super 7 or Lotto 6-49 tickets, and have recently been modified to validate Scratch 'n Win tickets.

**VICTORIA HANDSIDES/
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The military is looking for more than two million rounds of ammunition for Soviet guns, a curious purchase experts say appears destined for the weapons of Afghan soldiers under the charge of the Canadian army in Kandahar. **TORSTAR NEW SERVICE**

Canada

Blackmore claims charges are religious persecution

B.C. sect leader says arrests made for political reasons

FERNANDO CARNEIRO
Metro Canada



One of the men facing polygamy charges in the British Columbia community of Bountiful said Thursday he's being persecuted for his religion.

Winston Blackmore, who allegedly has more than 20 wives, told reporters in Creston, B.C., that he was being charged for political reasons. He said the timing of the charges was intended to help the current B.C. government "grandstand" ahead of this spring's

"Polygamy is not about religion. It's about the power of men over women and children."

Nancy Mereska

provincial election.

"Persecution has always been about politics," Blackmore said. "This is not about polygamy."

Polygamy is illegal in Canada, a ban that Blackmore claims violates his religious freedom as guaranteed by Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Edmonton's Nancy Mereska, co-ordinator of Stop Polygamy in Canada,

said she "absolutely rejects" Blackmore's claim.

"Polygamy is not about religion," she said. "It's about the power of men over women and children."

She added that Part 1 of the Charter says the rights listed are subject to the laws of Canada.

"They can have whatever religious belief they want, but when they practise a belief that is against

the law, they are committing a crime."

Mereska said she believes that more charges are coming.

"I can see this going to the Supreme Court of Canada in about seven years, and I'm confident the Supreme Court is going to uphold our laws against polygamy."

The other man facing polygamy charges is James Oler, the leader of a rival faction in Bountiful who allegedly has two wives.

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Ottawa Striking transit workers reject offer



Ottawa residents showed their support as union members arrived at the Ottawa Civic Centre to vote on the city's latest contract offer Thursday. The striking workers voted 64.4 per cent against the city's proposal. The vote took place after Rona Ambrose, federal minister of labour, ordered the union to allow it.

News in brief

OILSANDS Canadian oilsands producers, under fire from environmental critics, do not fear increasing legal challenges to their operations while they try to polish their public image, executives said Thursday.

BOMBERS RCMP have cleared eight people identified as potential suspects in attacks on natural gas facilities in northern British Columbia, a police spokesman said Thursday.

PUNTLAND Adam Esse of Mississauga, Ont., lost his bid

Thursday to become president of Puntland, the area of Somalia that has become the staging ground for pirates.

ATTACK Security at the Big White ski resort near Kelowna, B.C., has been tightened after several sexual assaults in recent weeks, CBC News Online reports. The latest occurred early Wednesday when a woman was sexually touched while she was sleeping. Police believe the assailant entered her condo through an unlocked door.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

'Substantial' deficit coming: Flaherty

ECONOMY Canada will run a "substantial" deficit in the fiscal year starting on April 1, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said Thursday, citing planned stimulus measures to deal with the global economic crisis.

"Canada has certain needs and Canadians have certain needs in this extraordinary time of global recession. To fulfill those needs, we are going to have to run a substantial deficit," Flaherty said.

REUTERS

Russia eyes restoration of gas supply to Europe

Russia's gas monopoly said yesterday it would restore supplies to Europe through Ukraine, shut after a dispute between Moscow and Kiev, once international monitors are in place. **REUTERS**

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World

Obama urges stimulus

U.S. president-elect Barack Obama warned yesterday the U.S. economy could stay mired in recession for years without bold action, and he urged lawmakers to work day and night to pass a massive stimulus plan.

Obama, who takes office Jan. 20, promised to set a new economic course and

to quickly toughen the financial regulatory system.

"I don't believe it's too late to change course, but it will be if we don't take dramatic action as soon as possible," Obama said at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

"If nothing is done, this recession could linger for years. The unemployment

rate could reach double digits."

But he gave few new details about the package of tax cuts and public-works spending likely to cost \$800 billion US or more.

Obama is seeking approval by mid-February of the stimulus package he is crafting with the Democratic-led Congress. **REUTERS**

UN resolution for ceasefire passed

MIDDLE EAST The UN Security Council passed a resolution yesterday calling for a ceasefire in Gaza, an end to arms smuggling and Israel's full withdrawal after a 13-day offensive.

The U.S. abstained from the vote in order to first see the outcome of Egypt's mediation efforts, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said. **REUTERS**

News in brief

AFGHANISTAN More than a thousand Afghans signed up Thursday to fight Israel in the Gaza Strip, many of them blaming the U.S. for supporting the Jewish state.

TERRORISM Al Qaeda's operations chief in Pakistan and a top lieutenant are believed to be dead, a U.S. official said. The chief, Usama al-Kini, was thought to be behind the bombing of a hotel in Islamabad that killed 55 people.

INDIA A teacher who blinded a six-year-old girl by inserting a pin into her right eye will be charged with attempted murder, officials said. Police said the teacher pricked the girl's eye after she failed to answer a question in class.

NEPAL The UN's human rights agency has urged Nepal to search for girls missing after their parents sold them into domestic service, and urged an end to the practice. **REUTERS**



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Fraudsters digging through digital trash

Identity thieves are buying second-hand drives from eBay and recovering "deleted" files with specialist data recovery software. The solution? Smash it before you trash it. **REUTERS**

Business

Spenders turn savers

Bank deposits rise as economy heads south

Canadians are hunkering down and saving more money, sparking a swell in deposits, said bank executives at an industry conference in Toronto yesterday.

Bank of Montreal has already boosted its share of deposits and predicts that consumers will be more inclined to save than borrow this year.

The Bank of Nova Scotia is also reporting gains in personal deposits.

"When you get unrest in the marketplace, money goes to safe havens," said Chris Hodgson, head of domestic banking.

GICs and high-interest savings accounts are proving popular and more growth is expected as

Canadians flock to the new tax-free savings accounts.

But as deposit levels increase, banks are bracing for even slower demand for residential mortgages because of the souring economy. The growth in deposits, however, is good news for banks, as a relatively cheap source of capital. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Business in brief

BLU-RAY DVD revenue in the United States fell eight per cent in 2008, but a new report projects it's only a matter of time before Blu-ray begins to compensate for declining returns from traditional discs. For now, even accounting for the sales of the fledgling high-def format, the home entertainment industry fell six per cent last year. **REUTERS**

Retailers brace for fallout

RETAIL While U.S. retailers reported what analysts called the worst holiday sales in four decades, some said they fared better in Canada. But sales gains likely came at the expense of profits, experts cautioned.

American retailers yesterday reported sharply lower same-store sales for December that could have

repercussions for the Canadian industry, experts said.

"As we've seen from Linen 'n Things and Circuit City, it's hard for the Canadian subsidiary to keep operating if its parent in the U.S. is having serious financial difficulties," said Maude Tremblay, an analyst with Standard & Poor's. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

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Comment & Views

Comment

Housing hidden troubles

Homebuyers should do research to avoid a fixer-upper

Marketplace



Wendy Mesley

Buying a new house is probably the biggest purchase you will ever make. It's supposed to come with peace of mind, both financially and structurally. But some Canadians who bought new homes during the housing boom are just now finding out that new doesn't always mean trouble-free. And that could be a lot of people. Even with the economic slowdown, more than 83,600 new homes will be built in Canada this year.

Joe and Joanne West of Hamilton have been in

As with most things, you have to do a lot of work to make sure that what you are getting is a quality product.

their new home for just three years. But within two weeks of moving in, part of their basement floor caved in. Within the next few months, they compiled a list of more than 100 problems, including serious leaks, an unsteady roof and shaky floors. So in addition to the hundreds of thousands of dollars spent on their new home, they had to spend thousands more to start fixing their house.

How does a new home become a fixer-upper? As with most things, you have to do a lot of work to make sure that what you

are getting is a quality product.

For the Wests, the problems started before they took possession. The City of Hamilton didn't issue a building permit, which is required by law, until five months after construction began. That means the builder started work on the house without the building plans reviewed by the city.

If the Wests were buying a new toaster, they could just take it back.

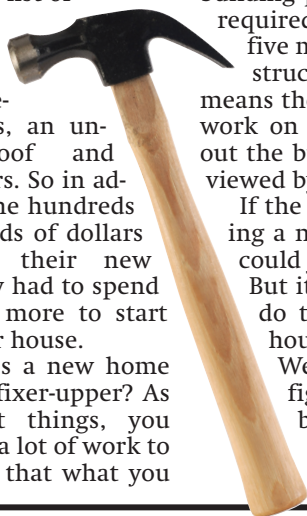
But it's not as easy to do that with a new house. Instead, the Wests began a fight with their builder, the City of Hamilton, and Tarion (On-

tario's new-home warranty program). In the end, they received a settlement from Tarion, but their fight still isn't settled with the builder or the city.

If you're worried about getting sunk with a money pit of a brand new home, there are things you can do:

Get references from your builder. Before buying, make sure your real-estate lawyer checks for any liens against the house and that an occupancy permit has been issued. Check that all building permits are issued. Get an independent inspector to check your home before you take possession.

Wendy Mesley is co-host of CBC TV's Marketplace. To learn more about new home buying pitfalls, check out this season's premiere episode, New Home Nightmares, Friday, Jan. 9 at 8:30 p.m. or go to www.cbc.ca/marketplace.



Views

Good men needed to raise good men

UrbanCompass

Terence Harding



As Edmonton was preparing to greet its first baby of 2009 and the start of a new life to be lived, the life of someone else's baby was coming to an abrupt end in a pool of blood in the middle of 51st Avenue.

It's a sign of the times that the first baby of the new year led that day's news coverage. In Edmonton, the murder of an 18-year-old man isn't front-page news anymore.

When I first learned of the murder of Steven Lee Mills, I might have just shaken my head and won-

dered what our city was coming to. But not in this case. I knew Steven.

Steven had been a guest in my home. He had slept under my roof. He had eaten my food. I had sometimes driven him home to make sure he arrived safely. Over the years, I watched Steven change from an obstreperous nine-year-old to a young man with issues and a child of his own. From the moment I met him, I knew that life was going to be tough on Steven. But I didn't for one moment think he would become Edmonton's last murder of 2008.

Steven wasn't an angel. But neither was he a devil. He wasn't a gang banger. He wasn't a drug dealer. He wasn't a career criminal. He was just a man/boy trying to make his way in

It's clear many of our young men are failing us. But I believe that's because we are failing many of them.

the world. Though he was the architect of much of his misfortune, he did not deserve such an ignominious end.

The majority of this city's homicides are about young men killing other young men. Add to that the endless stories of theft, vandalism, bullying and assaults and it's clear many of our young men are failing us. But I believe that's because we are failing many of them.

Men learn to be good

men from good men. Too many boys are left to navigate the shoals of a challenging and complex world without good men to guide them. As a result, they look to solve their problems with fists, knives, guns and gangs. The police alone cannot change this. Schools alone cannot change this. Social services alone cannot change this. They need the help of good men to solve this problem. We need more men — fathers — uncles — brothers — neighbours — to step up to the plate and make a real difference.

That's what good men do.

Terence Harding is a corporate communicator and has been a radio and television talk show host, newspaper columnist, and radio commentator. He is a keen observer of all things Edmonton.

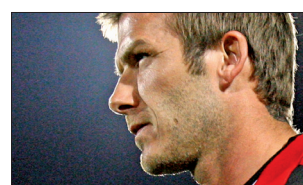
Worth mentioning

Has soccer star Beckham lost his footing in the ad world?

David Beckham's image as a global marketing icon may be showing its first cracks.

The soccer star, whose 10-year marketing relationship with PepsiCo recently ended, came to the U.S. in 2007 in a deal with Major League Soccer worth up to \$250 million US.

"Becks" was already an international star for his soccer skills, good looks and marriage to a former Spice Girl. But his U.S. tenure has been marred by injury and poor performance by his Los



David Beckham

Angeles Galaxy team, and MLS TV ratings are stagnant.

"He is no longer a world-class athlete, and therefore has become less interesting," said Stephanus Tekle, consultant at SPORT+MARKT in Germany.

BEN KLAYMAN/REUTERS

Quote of the Day

"I was just floored ... to find out that the future commander-in-chief was actually going to be the future nerd-in-chief."

— Marvel Comics editor-in-chief Joe Quesada, who said the idea for a new Spider-Man edition, Spidey meets the President!, came from a statement from U.S. president-elect Barack Obama that he collected Spider-Man comics. REUTERS

Metro Online Poll Results

71% SAID YES

Should polygamy continue to be illegal in Canada?

29% SAID NO

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It's your turn to tell others what you think. E-mail your thoughts and opinions to: edmontonletters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

The Canadian Soccer Association announced Thursday that Christine Sinclair is the female selection for the 2008 adidas Canadian Player of the Year award. The 25-year-old played 22 games for the national team in 2008, scoring 13 times. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports

SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Tavares traded

The Ontario Hockey League London Knights acquired Team Canada hero John Tavares from the Oshawa Generals Thursday. It's not known when he will make his Knights debut, but if he's in the lineup Friday, he'll face his former team as London hosts the Generals. Tavares is favoured to be the first pick in the 2009 NHL draft. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Running down a dream

MATTHEW WUEST
Metro Canada

As a single mother of three, it goes without saying that Denise Robson does plenty of running around.

But Robson is not just a single mother of three; she's also the fastest 40-and-older marathoner in Canadian history. And for her, running around involves a lot more than the traditional duties of parenthood.

The 40-year-old Nova Scotia woman fits in training whenever she can: Shorter runs on her lunch breaks; longer 12-kilometre runs from her office to her home after she's done work.

"I shake my head all the time," Robson groans at how she manages training with girls aged eight, 10 and 12. "I have to balance things because it's important my running time isn't taking away from my time with my kids."

Robson was a cross-country runner during her university days, but quit "cold turkey" 19 years ago. It wasn't until five years ago that

she took it back up. She had no grand visions of running a 42.2-kilometre

marathon. She was going through a separation and just wanted to relieve some stress.

"A co-worker asked me to join them for a lunch-time run," she recalls. "I thought,

Denise Robson qualified for the Boston Marathon on her first try.



"Hmm, why not? Some time away from my desk, some fresh air? It would do me good."

Five months later, Robson entered the Prince Edward Island Marathon "just to say I'd done it."

"It was totally as a lark," she says.

It turned out to be a lot more than that. She was the fastest woman in the P.E.I. Marathon with a time of three hours, 13 minutes, and qualified for the Boston Marathon — something that usually takes years of training — by more than 30 minutes.

"Everyone was like, 'OK, wait a minute, you've got something here, Denise,'" she says. "It's been an addiction ever since."

Her times improved con-

tinuously, and last month, she smashed the country's 17-year-old masters record (and her personal best) by more than three minutes, running the California International Marathon in Sacramento in 2:41:12.

Robson was taken aback when she was informed a week after the marathon that she had made history.

"I was like, 'You've got the wrong person here. Are you kidding me, 2:41 is the record? Great, but I'm gonna be faster next year,'" says Robson.

"I'm living a dream at 40 that I should have been living at 20," she says. "I missed that opportunity at 20, so now I'm going to run with it as far as I can, no pun intended."

Eastern all-star roster filled out

NHL The NHL's leading goal scorers, Washington's Alex Ovechkin, Buffalo's Thomas Vanek and Philadelphia's Jeff Carter, headed a list of 15 players named as reserves to the Eastern Conference all-star team for the game to be played on Jan. 25 in Montreal. Ovechkin, Vanek and Carter were all tied for the league-leader in goals with 27 entering Thursday's action. They will be joined up front by Tampa Bay's Vincent Lecavalier, Carolina's Eric Staal (third appearance), Boston's Marc Savard, New Jersey's Zach Parise, Ottawa's Dany Heatley and Atlanta's Ilya Kovalchuk. As voted by fans, Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby, his teammate Evgeni Malkin, and Montreal's Alex Kovalev will be the three starting forwards. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports in brief

NHL The Pittsburgh Penguins and centre Jordan Staal have agreed to terms on a new four-year contract. Financial terms were not disclosed, although Staal will play the remainder of this season under his entry-level deal. The new pact will start with the 2009-10 season and run through 2012-13. The 20-year-old has 11 goals and 10 assists for 21 points in 41 games this season. He has netted 91 points in 204 NHL games over three seasons.

MLB The Boston Red Sox agreed to terms with both pitcher John Smoltz and outfielder Rocco Baldelli on Thursday. Smoltz had played his entire 21-year career in Atlanta. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

YorkReport

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Will return

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NHL

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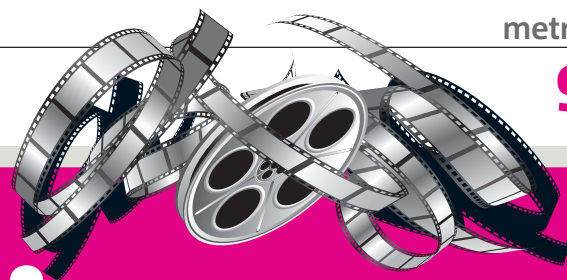
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Movies & Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN LISK, DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Battle of the brides

Pg 10



Kate Hudson and Anne Hathaway actually made a few funnies in the film *Bride Wars*. Although the storyline is pretty predictable, the cynical, cutthroat humour comes with a good dollop of wit that offers a refreshing surprise.

movies

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Kevin James puts heart, soul and big butt into *Mall Cop*.

music

Pg 15



Sam Roberts shares insights on how Canadians rock.

going out

Pg 17



Writers Guild nominates best film scripts of '08.

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Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Bride married to predictability

Bride Wars

Director: Gary Winick

Stars: Kate Hudson, Anne Hathaway

Classification: PG

Rating: ●●

ROBYN YOUNG
for Metro Canada

Kate Hudson and Anne Hathaway actually made a few funnies in the film *Bride Wars*.

The generically-titled flick about two BFFs turned frenemies in the preamble to their coinciding nuptials is just in time for one of the most popular wedding-movie months of the year. And although the storyline is gag-me-with-a-spoon predictable, the cynical, cut-throat humour comes with a good dollop of wit that offers a refreshing surprise.

Emma (Hathaway) and Liv (Hudson) have been best friends since grade school and both have

dreamt of June weddings at the Plaza Hotel in New York City since catching a peek of one while attending tea service with their mothers as youngsters.

The live-in boyfriends of each (played by Chris Pratt and Steve Howey) end up proposing around the same time, a scheduling mix-up with fictionally infamous wedding planner Marion St. Claire (Candice Bergen) follows, and — voila! — a nightmare is born.

The bosom buddies' weddings are booked on the same day, at the same time, in adjacent rooms and neither bride will relinquish her date or location. Resentment builds until it explodes into an all-out war on the day of their shared wedding shower.

"Your wedding better watch it!" shouts Hudson. "Your wedding better sleep with one eye open."

"Your wedding's gonna be huge — just like your



Kate Hudson and Anne Hathaway transform from best friends to bridezillas when their weddings are booked on the same day in *Bride Wars*.

ass was at prom," retorts Hathaway as the pals' mutual friends look on in horror.

Since it's January and

most of us have spent the last two months being overly nice to everyone in our paths, it comes as a bit of a treat to indulge in the

sabotage-fest that ensues. It's tiring being nice all the time as Hathaway's character Emma discovers part way through the film.

On the web

• To see a *Bride Wars* trailer, and for more pictures from the movies, visit metronews.ca/movies

Greg DePaul and Casey Wilson probably could have written the screenplay in their sleep, but much of the dialogue is intelligent and Kristen Johnston (*Third Rock from the Sun*) puts on a decent supporting actress performance as Emma's unstable colleague-turned-maid-of-honour-by-default.

The main disappointment is director Gary Winick's decision to go with the melodramatic ending that tries to suck a few tears out of the audience. It ends up overplayed with a vomit-inducing result.

Otherwise, it'll be a decent rental for a Friday night in February.

Art imitating life for Rourke

Movie feature

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

All art imitates life and nowhere is this adage more resonant than in director Darren Aronofsky's latest peek into the darker recesses of the human heart, *The Wrestler*.

The film follows the lonely twilight days of former wrestling superstar Randy (The Ram) Robinson as he desperately attempts to grapple with age, ego and the physical toll his profession has racked against his body.

But the film's real fascination — it opens next Friday — lies in the eerie manner in which *The Ram*'s misfortunes echo those of the man who plays him: '80s movie icon Mickey Rourke, who delivers a dynamic, career-best performance that has Oscar



Mickey Rourke plays a beaten and battered wrestler trying for a comeback in *The Wrestler*.

written all over it.

Once considered the heir apparent to both Marlon Brando and Robert DeNiro, Rourke — after starring in such tough, uncompromising cult favorites as *Diner*, *The Year of the Dragon*, *Angel Heart* and *Barfly* — endured a plethora of public humiliations (his rocky relationship with ex-wife Carre Otis is well-docu-

mented) before abandoning his craft to pursue his first love, boxing. By the time he returned to the screen in the late '90s, the party was long over.

Screenwriter Robert Siegel wrote the part of *The Ram* specifically for Rourke, basing the character on his own admiration for the actor's past cinematic glories.

The Wrestler — which sees Rourke delivering a shattering emotional and physical performance — marks the official return of the once-troubled actor to the Hollywood big leagues.

"It feels strange, very strange and almost painfully nice," says Rourke about his career renaissance. "I behaved terribly in those early days ... I've been fortunate enough along the way to have access to good advice to make changes in my life. I just didn't think it was going to take me 10 years to work it all out."

James dreams big with Cop

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

FEATURE After a nine year run on TV's *The King of Queens*, Kevin James now has big plans to become a movie star. To some, that may sound like a lofty goal but not to the 43-year-old comic. After all, his comedy heroes were also quite big. Literally.

"Jackie Gleason was a guy who could move and was a big guy," James immediately said when asked of his idols during a recent interview. "I loved all the big guys — (John) Belushi, (John) Candy, Chris Farley — I had a connection to those guys and being (larger) myself, I really, really enjoyed how they moved and their style."

If James doesn't achieve his heroes' level of fame, it surely isn't for lack of physical ability. In his new big-screen comedy *Paul Blart: Mall Cop* (in theatres next Friday) James plays a



Kevin James plays a bumbling security guard fighting terrorists in *Paul Blart: Mall Cop*.

bumbling unarmed security guard who must defend his shopping centre from a gang of gun-wielding terrorists. In the process, he falls 45 feet through a glass skylight, gets punched out by a woman and wipes out into several large objects.

"We wanted it to be really, really physical and make it an action-comedy and we did, we went hard," said James, who also co-wrote the film. "I went crazy for

this movie because I said, 'this is my idea, if I'm going to be out on the line, I'm going to push it' and we certainly did."

One such stunt involved running face-first into a glass door, a stunt that not only looks incredibly painful but involved James ricocheting back and flipping head over heels.

"That was a little insane," laughs James. "I hit it hard. I just wanted to make it look real and it was real."

Blart's other comic device is his trusty Segway, the two-wheeled personal transporter many security personnel now possess in American malls.

"I laughed so hard when I saw (mall cops) on these things," James admitted, insisting the first sight of him on the transporter was perhaps even more pathetic but a perfect gag for the film. "I look like Hitchcock floating basically — that's all it was, just a mass floating by."

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Contract extension for Paramount CEO

Viacom Inc renewed the contract of Paramount Pictures' chief executive, Brad Grey, for a period of five years, a person close to the company said on Thursday. **REUTERS**

Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Northern frights revisited

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada



Next week, as horror movie fans across the globe prepare to get a torrent of blood, pick axes and various viscera splattered onto their laps in Patrick Lussier's 3-D remake of My Bloody Valentine, it's a good time to reflect on the fact that director George Mihalka's original 1981 mad miner slasher epic was a prime piece of Canadian shock.

The original — shot in Sydney Mines, N.S. — was one of many northern frights whose international popularity helped shape one of the most fascinating periods in our film history. Yep, Canada was once a major hub for horror.

The first kick at the creepy Can-con can came with 1961's *The Mask*, a lowbrow 3-D picture that opened the gates for a glo-

Movie feature

rious wave of eerie exploitation filmmaking.

Later, a couple of enterprising Montreal-based cinema-slingers, John Dunning and Andre Link, formed Cinepix, a distribution house that released Kung Fu (they were the first outfit to distribute Bruce Lee films in North America), horror and sex comedies and would make the most profound impact, discovering both Ivan Reitman (who unleashed the cult Eugene Levy/Andrea Martin gore classic *Cannibal Girls* in 1973) and perhaps most importantly, David Cronenberg.

It was Dunning and Link — Canada's equivalent to American International Pictures — who funded early icky Cronenberg efforts. Like 1975's *Shivers* and the following year's *Rabid*; tirelessly defending his controversial work and helping to



Jensen Ackles stars as 'Tom Hanniger' in *My Bloody Valentine 3D*.

put the young auteur on the map.

Cinepix would eventually spit out scads of unsavory fare like the legendary Ilsa She Wolf of the SS (it's rumoured that Reitman himself wrote that gruesome film under a pseudonym) and would capitalize

on the stalk and slash trend sparked by both Halloween and the far bloodier Friday the 13th with J. Lee Thompson's shish kebob abusing Happy Birthday To Me and, of course, *My Bloody Valentine*.

Though Dunning and Link weren't the only ones

making waves in the realms of the weird — Bob Clark's landmark 1975 thriller *Black Christmas* still stands as the quintessential Canadian stomach turner — their joyously un-PC efforts were groundbreaking.

And these days, with

Eastern promises

• Halifax-based filmmaker Jason Eisener landed on the lurid movie



map in Jason 2007 after Eisener his crowd-pleasing *Hobo with a Shotgun* won the Tarantino/Rodriguez Grindhouse mock trailer contest. Now his brilliant and hilariously grotesque short film *Treevenge* will be featured at none other than the Sundance Film Festival. Go to treevenge.com for more information.

American producers opting to shoot movies like *Saw* and *Silent Hill* in our streets (even zombie master George Romero moved to Toronto in 2004) and homegrown heroes like East Coast upstart Jason Eisener drawing attention, it's only a matter of time before the term "hoser" becomes synonymous with horror once more.

Character fun to watch, but morality feels heavy

Gran Torino

Director: Clint Eastwood

Stars: Clint Eastwood

Classification: 14A

Rating: ●●●●

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada



REVIEW Clint Eastwood thinks America's gone soft and he wants you to know it. First, the 78-year-old acting legend told *Esquire Magazine* that people were "tougher" when he was a kid and that much of his "childhood was spent punching the bullies out."

Now, with his latest drama *Gran Torino*, Eastwood puts his words into deeds playing bigoted veteran Walt Kowalski, a character that perhaps, like Clint himself, would rather put up than shut up.

Kowalski just wants to be left alone but as he sits on his porch sipping beer, lamenting the disregard of youth and the growing ethnicity of his neighborhood. He soon reluctantly finds himself developing a chummy relationship with his Hmong neighbors after he scares off pestering gangbangers with a shotgun grumbling, "Get off my lawn."



Clint Eastwood stars and directs in *Gran Torino*.

If that slice of dialogue sounds like it was uttered by Eastwood's own Dirty Harry, it's certainly not by mistake. In fact, *Gran Torino* is an obvious tribute to the toughness of Eastwood's career. Kowalski isn't so much a character as he is the symbol of an era and this film, a moral lesson of changing times. Perhaps because of this, *Gran Torino*'s set-up does feel somewhat mawkish, even satirical at times.

While Eastwood is agonizingly fun to watch — think Archie Bunker with a trigger finger — *Torino*'s morality feels heavy-handed and tone uneven. Sure, it plays out like a eulogy to a tremendous career but while Eastwood's surely worth celebrating, I'm not convinced his *Gran Torino* is.

Quote of the week

"It's a funny story. This book shows up on my doorstep inscribed, 'To Brendan, thank you for inspiring this character. I hope you get to read this aloud to your kids one day,' with (author) Cornelia Funke on the cover, and I thought it was a joke. But when the film was proposed, she refused to sign over the film rights until I agreed to play the lead role of Mortimer. Being new to the world of filmmaking she wanted to know more, and it was a lot of work bringing the novel to screen."

BRENDAN FRASER TALKING ABOUT HIS LEAD ROLE IN THE MOVIE ADAPTATION OF THE BOOK INKHEART —

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For the second year in a row, Roger Deakins has picked up two nominations from the American Society of Cinematographers for his feature film work. Deakins was cited earlier this week for *Revolutionary Road* and *The Reader*. **REUTERS**

Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Walking down the aisle

Weddings are a movie staple, can define tone of film

Since the beginning of filmed entertainment, 25,367 weddings have been portrayed on the big screen.

OK, I just made that number up; it's probably way more than that. It seems the only thing people enjoy more than going to a wedding is seeing a wedding on the big screen. At least that's what the producers of this weekend's *Bride Wars* are banking on.

Weddings are a movie staple and as Katrina Onstadt pointed out on cbc.ca, they can define the tone of the whole film. "(A) movie that starts with a wedding will always be gloomier than that which ends with one," she wrote.

It's an astute observation. Comedies tend to build up to the big ceremony while dramas often use the walk down the aisle as

InFocus

Richard Crouse

mrchaos33@hotmail.com

a starting point for conflict. The elaborate wedding sequence that kicks off *The Deer Hunter* is the opening salvo in a movie Roger Ebert called "a progression from a wedding to a funeral." Once again, the going gets grim after the I dos.

Probably the most famous wedding in film history, though, is one that never gets to the vows. The wedding scene at the end of *The Graduate* is a classic but the scenes that make it memorable weren't shot as originally planned.

Director Mike Nichols originally intended for

Benjamin (Dustin Hoffman) to loudly bang on the church windows to disrupt the wedding between his love, Elaine (Katharine Ross), and her intended, but in rehearsal the windows rattled so ominously someone panicked and yelled, "Everybody out!" Hoffman suggested spreading his arms out and cautiously tapping on the glass with open hands. "The clincher," Hoffman said, "was the reviews all saying this was Benjamin's Christ moment. It was a fix. That's all it was."

In a subtler, but equally memorable, moment, Elaine and Benjamin dash from the church, laughing, fleeing convention toward an unsure future. Then, suddenly, they stop laughing as though the consequences of their actions have just sunk in. It's a powerful moment that caps a terrific movie, but

again it wasn't planned. As they shot the scene Nichols was so overbearing the two actors instinctively clammed up and sober expressions appeared on their faces. In post-production, Nichols liked their transition from cocky confidence to uncertainty so much he kept it in.

Ironically, when the film opened in Portugal censors felt the ending set a bad example for kids and clipped the last few minutes. That version ended with Elaine obeying her parents and marrying the blonde frat boy. Portuguese audiences may have missed the whole point of the movie, but at least were treated to the thing most paid to see — a big wedding scene.

Richard Crouse is the author of *Son of the 100 Best Movies You've Never Seen* and film critic for CTV's Canada AM.

Jewish resistance comes to light in Zwick's *Defiance*

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

FEATURE When screenwriter Clayton Frohman first showed a newspaper obituary about a wartime Jewish resistance fighter to *Blood Diamond* director Edward Zwick, the Oscar-winning filmmaker was resistant himself. "I said, 'the Holocaust? What more could we possibly have to add to this subject?'" Zwick said during a recent stop in Toronto.

After reading the article, however, he soon discovered a biography about said refugee and "realized that indeed there was something — a pretty glaring omission — which had to do with resistance; that the monolithic understanding that Jews had been entirely passive (during the war) was incorrect."

With *Defiance* — in theatres next Friday —

Zwick is now behind the stunning true story of *Tuvia Bielski* (starring Daniel Craig — taking a break from James Bond), the Jewish resistance fighter who led more than a thousand refugees through a Belarus forest battling German soldiers, starvation and bitter winters.

When the director presented a private screening for some of the survivors and ancestors of the actual event, it became clear just how important this simple obituary-originated story actually was for Zwick to tell.

"It was very interesting to show them the film," said Zwick.

"A 12-year-old or a 14-year-old's memory of an event like this is obviously particular and I think for them it's been an opportunity to not just express something but to have it shaped in some way."

"HILARIOUS!"

Kelli Gillespie, CW-TV/San Diego

"Loved It!"

Nadine Rajabi, National Lampoon TV and Comedy Radio XM

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Screen Times

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JAN. 9 TO THURS., JAN. 15. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

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Bedtime Stories (G) No Passes, Digital Presentation Fri-Sun 12:30-3-7-9:40

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 12-3:40-7:30

Doubt (PG) DTS Digital Fri-Sun 12:55-3:35-6:50-9:25 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 12:50-3:45-7:10-9:50

Gran Torino (14A) DTS Digital Fri-Sun 12:50-3:50-6:45-9:50 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 12:40-3:50-7-9:50

The Reader (18A) DTS Digital Fri-Sun 12:10-3:15-6:30-9:15 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 12:10-3:15-6:30-9:20

Seven Pounds (14A) No Passes, DTS Digital Fri-Sun 12:15-3:10-6:40-9:35 No Passes, DTS Digital Mon-Thu 12:15-3:10-6:35-9:30

Valkyrie (PG) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:20-3:30-6:35-9:30 DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:20-3:35-6:45-9:35

Yes Man (14A) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Sun 12:40-3:20-6:55-9:40 No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 12:30-3:25-6:50-9:25

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4211 139th Ave., 780-472-7600

Bedtime Stories (G) Digital Presentation Fri 4:25-7-9:20 Digital Presentation Sat-Sun 1:45-4:25-7-9:20 Digital Presentation Mon-Thu 4:25-7-9:20

Bride Wars (PG) Fri 4:40-7:20-9:40 Sat-Sun 2-4:40-7:20-9:40 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:20-9:40

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri 4:50-8:30 Sat-Sun 1:15-4:50-8:30 Mon-Thu 4:50-8:30

Gran Torino (14A) No Passes Fri 4:05-6:45-9:30 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:20-4:05-6:45-9:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:05-6:45-9:30

Marley & Me (PG) Fri 4:10-6:50-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:25-4:10-6:50-9:35 Mon-Thu 4:10-6:50-9:35

Seven Pounds (14A) Fri 4-6:40-9:25 Sat-Sun 1-4-6:40-9:25 Mon-Thu 4-6:40-9:25

The Tale of Despereaux (G) Fri 4:15 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:15 Mon-Thu 4:15

Twilight (PG) Fri-Thu 6:30-9:15

The Unborn (14A) Fri 4:45-7:30-9:50 Sat-Sun 2:10-4:45-7:30-9:50 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:30-9:50

Valkyrie (PG) Fri 3:50-6:35-9:10 Sat-Sun 1:10-3:50-6:35-9:10 Mon-Thu 3:50-6:35-9:10

Yes Man (14A) Fri 4:35-7:10-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:35-7:10-9:45 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:10-9:45

GARNEAU THEATRE
8712 - 109 St., 780-433-2212

Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 6:50-9:10 Sat-Sun 2-6:50-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:10

METRO CINEMA
Zeidler Hall, Citadel Theatre Complex, 9828-101 Ave., 780-425-9212, metrocinema.org

Ben Day (STC) Tue 6:30

Died Young Stay Pretty (STC) Fri 9 Sat 7 Sun 9 Mon 7 Tue 9



BARRY WETCHER/TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

Marley the dog attempts to look contrite in Marley & Me, which is currently in theatres.

Roman Polanski: Wanted and Desired (14A) Fri 7 Sat 9 Sun 7 Mon 9 **Stitches** (STC) Thu 7

MOVIES 12
5074 130 Ave., 780-472-9779

Australia (PG) Fri-Sat 12:50-4:05-7:40-11 Sun-Thu 12:50-4:05-7:40

Beverly Hills Chihuahua (G) Fri-Sat 1:45-4:45-7:20-9:35-11:45 Sun-Thu 1:45-4:45-7:20-9:35

Body of Lies (14A) Fri-Sat 1:15-4:10-6:55-9:35-12:10 Sun-Thu 1:15-4:10-6:55-9:35

Changeling (14A) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:05-6:55-9:50

Eagle Eye (14A) Fri-Sat 1:35-4:25-7-9:45-12:10 Sun-Thu 1:35-4:25-7-9:45

Ghajini (Hindi w/e.s.t.) (14A) Fri-Thu 1-4:35-8:15

High School Musical 3: Senior Year (G) Fri-Sat 1:30-4:20-7:05-9:30-11:50 Sun-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:05-9:30

Punisher: War Zone (18A) Fri-Sat 1:55-4:50-7:25-9:55-12:05 Sun-Thu 1:55-4:50-7:25-9:55

Rachel Getting Married (STC) Fri-Sat 1:25-4:15-6:50-9:20-11:40 Sun-Thu 1:25-4:15-6:50-9:20

Role Models (14A) Fri-Sat 1:50-4:40-7:10-9:25-11:45 Sun-Thu 1:50-4:40-7:10-9:25

Saw V (18A) Fri-Sat 2-4:55-7:30-10-12:15 Sun-Thu 2-4:55-7:30-10

Transporter 3 (14A) Fri-Sat 1:40-4:30-7:15-9:40-11:55 Sun-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:15-

9:40

NORTH EDMONTON CINEMAS
14231 137th Ave., 780-732-2236

Bedtime Stories (G) Fri-Thu 12:30-2:50-5:10-7:40-10:15

Bolt (G) Fri-Thu 12-2:30-4:45-7:15-9:40

Bride Wars (PG) No Passes Fri-Mon 12:40-3-5:15-7:30-9:45 No Passes Tue 3-5:15-7:30-9:45 No Passes Wed-Thu 12:40-3-5:15-7:30-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Tue 1

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Thu 2:15-6:20-9:50

Doubt (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:20-6:30-9

Gran Torino (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1-4-7:10-10:10

Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa (G) Fri-Thu 12:05

Marley & Me (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:20-10:05

Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine (STC) Sat 11

Quantum of Solace (14A) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:20-7:05-10

Seven Pounds (14A) Fri-Mon 1:20-4:20-7-9:55 Tue 4:20-7-9:55 Wed-Thu 1:20-4:20-7-9:55 Star & Strollers Screening Tue 1

The Spirit (14A) Fri-Thu 9:35

The Tale of Despereaux (G) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:20-6:30

Twilight (PG) Fri-Wed 1:15-3:50-6:50-9:30 Thu 1:15-3:50-10:05

The Unborn (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu

1:45-3:55-8-10:40

Valkyrie (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:35-10:20

Yes Man (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-2:45-5:20-7:50-10:30

PRINCESS I & II
10337 Whyte Ave., 780-433-0728

I've Loved You So Long (PG) Fri 6:55-9:05 Sat-Sun 2:30-6:55-9:05 Mon-Thu 6:55-9:05

Milk (14A) Fri 6:45-9:10 Sat-Sun 2-6:45-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:10

SCOTIABANK THEATRE WEST MALL
8882 170th St., 780-444-2400

Bedtime Stories (G) Fri-Tue 12:40-3:45-6:45-9:20 Wed 3:45-6:45-9:20 Thu 12:40-3:45-6:45-9:20 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 12:55

Bolt (G) Fri-Thu 12:45

Bride Wars (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:10-2:30-5-7:30-10 No Passes Wed 3-5-7:30-10 No Passes Thu 12:10-2:30-5-7:30-10 Star & Strollers, No Passes Wed 1

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Thu 12-4-8

The Day the Earth Stood Still: The IMAX Experience (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-7-9:45

Gran Torino (14A) No Passes Fri-Sat 12:20-3:40-7:15-10:15 No Passes Sun 1-3:40-7:15-10:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 12:20-3:40-7:15-10:15

Marley & Me (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-

6:30-9:30

Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine (STC) Sat 11

Quantum of Solace (14A) Fri-Sun 4:40-7:40-10:30 Mon 4:30-10:30 Tue-Thu 4:40-7:40-10:30

Seven Pounds (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50

The Spirit (14A) Fri 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:15 Sat 4:20-7:20-10:15 Sun-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:15

The Tale of Despereaux (G) Fri-Thu 1:40

Twilight (PG) Fri-Tue 3:20-6:40-9:40 Wed 3:20-9:40 Thu 3:20-6:40-9:40

The Unborn (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-2:50-5:15-7:50-10:20

Valkyrie (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:10

Yes Man (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:45-10:30

SOUTH EDMONTON COMMON
1525 99th St., 780-436-8585

Bedtime Stories (G) Fri-Wed 12-2:30-4:55-7:30-10 Thu 4:55-7:30-10 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1

Bolt (G) Fri 12:05-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:40 Sat-Thu 12:05-2:25-4:50-7:20-9:40

Bride Wars (PG) No Passes Fri-Wed 12:10-2:40-5-7:50-10:30 No Passes Thu 5-7:50-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-2-4-6:15-8-10

The Day the Earth Stood Still (PG) Fri-Tue 12:40-3:30-6:45-9:30 Wed 12:40-3:30-9:30 Thu 12:40-3:30-6:45-9:30

Doubt (PG) Fri-Thu 1:40-4-6:50-9:45

Gran Torino (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:10-10:15

Marley & Me (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:30-7:40-10:15

Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine (STC) Sat 11

Quantum of Solace (14A) Fri 1-3:50-6:45-9:30 Sat 3:50-6:45-9:30 Sun-Wed 1-3:50-6:45-9:30 Thu 1-3:50-9:30

Seven Pounds (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-7-10:10

The Spirit (14A) Fri-Thu 9:50

The Tale of Despereaux (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7

Twilight (PG) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:40-7-20-10:20 Mon 1:15-4:40-10:20 Tue-Thu 1:15-4:40-7:20-10:20

The Unborn (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:15-2:45-5-7:40-10:30 No Passes Mon 12:15-2:25-4:40-7:40-10:30 No Passes Tue-Thu 12:15-2:45-5-7:40-10:30

Valkyrie (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:10-6:50-9:45

Yes Man (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:20-7:15-10:20

TELUS WORLD OF SCIENCE
Edmonton Space And Science Centre, 1121-142 St., 780-451-3344

The Alps (STC) Fri 4-8 Sat-Sun 12-4

Amazon (STC) Mon 1:30 Thu 12:30

Beavers (STC) Tue 9:30

Bugs! (STC) Mon 9:30 Wed 10:30

Coral Reef Adventure (G) Mon 11:30 Tue 1:30

Dinosaurs Alive! (STC) Fri 1:30 Tue 12:30 Thu 10:30

Grand Canyon Adventure: River at Risk (STC) Fri 11:30-3-7-9 Sat 11-1-3-5-7-9 Sun 11-1-3-5 Mon-Thu 3

Greece: Secrets of the Past (STC) Mon 12:30 Tue 11:30

The Human Body (STC) Wed 1:30 Thu 9:30

Hurricane on the Bayou (STC) Tue 10:30 Thu 11:30

Mummies: Secrets of the Pharaohs (STC) Fri 10:30 Sat 2-8 Sun 2

Mystic India (STC) Wed 9:30

Mystic India IMAX (STC) Fri 9:30

Space Station (G) Mon 10:30 Wed 12:30

Whales: An Unforgettable Journey (STC) Fri 12:30 Wed 11:30 Thu 1:30


WESTMOUNT CENTRE
111 Ave. & Groat Rd., 403-455-8726

Bride Wars (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 7-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 12:55-3:15-7-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Wed 7-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital Thu 7:05-9:15

Marley & Me (PG) DTS Digital Fri 6:50-9:35 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 1:05-3:45-6:50-9:35 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 6:50-9:35

The Unborn (14A) DTS Digital Fri 7:15-9:45 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 1:15-3:55-7:15-9:45 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 7:15-9:45

Valkyrie (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 6:40-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 12:45-3:35-6:40-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Wed 6:40-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital Thu 9:25



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14A

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Billboard's top albums

1. Fearless, Taylor Swift, right; 2. I AM...SASHA FIERCE, Beyoncé; 3. 808s and Heartbreak, Kanye West; 4. Twilight Soundtrack, Various Artists; 5. Dark Horse, Nickelback. REUTERS



Music

Sam Roberts goes coastal

JIM REYNO
Metro Canada



Sam Roberts: Juno-winning rocker, hockey-playing Quebec native ... future sociologist?

"It would be an interesting study to go province by province and make some sort of blanket cultural statement based on the response crowds give to a rock 'n' roll band," Roberts said in a phone interview.

"There really is a huge, huge shift from one place to the next."

He would know. Roberts is in the midst of a Canadian tour that will bring him across the country. He first toured Canada in 2002. Since then, he's crisscrossed the country ...

"I don't have the exact



Touring has taught Sam Roberts, centre, that Canadians all love to rock, but we rock in different ways.

number," he said. "But it's a helluva lot!"

And here's what he's found: We all love to rock, but we rock in different ways.

"Sometimes, there are unbelievable shifts in the way people respond to rock 'n' roll music," said Roberts. "What you learn

over the years is it's not necessarily that they don't like it — that's the collective behaviour, that's the collective response.

"So when you go to Saskatchewan, the response is completely different than the completely over-the-top, bordering on out-of-control response

you get in the Atlantic provinces."

Unlike some artists, Roberts makes it a point to go coast to coast when he goes on tour.

"What we've done right from the beginning is try to hit all 10 provinces at least on our run across the country," said Roberts,

In concert

- Sam Roberts plays the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium (with The Stills) on Jan. 17.

whose most recent album, *Love at the End of the World*, was released in May. "We just figured that's how you do it! Why wouldn't they want to hear you in P.E.I. as much as they want to hear you in Alberta? ...

"I guess we consider ourselves a band that prides itself on getting out there and playing for anybody who will listen to us."

"If you're in a band, your motto should be: If you're working, things are good. So it's hard to complain about all the work at the moment."

Libertines fans hope for reunion

BANDS Fans of The Libertines are speculating the British rock band could become the latest act to stage a reunion, after signs of reconciliation between former frontmen Pete Doherty and Carl Barat.

Doherty, 29, and Barat, 30, fell out four years ago in a blaze of drugs and arguments but have recently been seen at each others' gigs and even spontaneously performed together.

Hopes for a more lasting reunion were rekindled when Dirty Pretty Things, the band Barat formed after the Libertines' implosion in 2004, broke up at the end of last year. **REUTERS**

Metro recommends

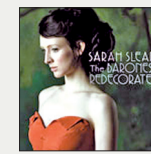
ANTONY AND THE JOHNSONS, ANOTHER WORLD EP:

Vibrato-voiced eccentric tones down his haunting sound for unique, somber piano ballads and bawdy blues ramblin'.



SARAH SLEAN, THE BARONESS REDECORATES:

T.O. chanteuse invigorates her sound with classical strings for a lush on this collection of tracks cut from her album *The Baroness*.



DAVE MATTHEWS BAND, DMB LIVE TRAX VOL. 13:

This fun-filled June 2008 show held at a Colorado baseball stadium includes impressive covers of classic Neil Young and Sly & the Family Stone cuts. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



New iTunes: More questions than answers

We've had a couple of days to digest the big announcement from Apple at Macworld about the significant changes to iTunes, starting in April.

First, there were three tiers of pricing. Older tracks will be discounted, selling for 69 cents. Newer and

SoundCheck

Alan Cross



alan@ongoinghistory.com

more popular tracks will go for either 99 cents or \$1.29. This is something the

record labels have been screaming for. They've wanted variable pricing.

But the second announcement is the big one: No more digital locks on the songs.

If you've ever tried to share a song you bought from iTunes with a friend, you'll know you can't. Everything is locked to you, your computer and your device. But with no digital rights management or DRM, you can do whatever you want with a music file: Move it from device to device, burn copies and share it with friends.

And it wasn't Apple that wanted to keep DRM in place. Steve Jobs was calling for an end to digital locks as far back as February 2007. It

took this long for all the labels to agree to drop the copy protection.

But what about all the songs you've already purchased from iTunes? I myself have hundreds. The good news is that we'll be able to upgrade them to DRM-free versions — but for 30 cents a song. That's still gonna hurt, but at least you can jailbreak the songs you want.

And that's still not all. When DRM disappears in April, any company can now make a music player that will work with iTunes. Up until now, the only portable players that worked with iTunes were all the flavours of iPod. Not anymore.

Question: What does this

means for the record labels now that DRM is effectively dead? They won't be able to control how consumers buy and listen to music.

Question: Will people respond to the variable pricing strategy? Let's face it, the only people this will affect will be those who already pay for music. And soon, there will be more DRM-free music out there.

Question: Will this erode Apple's market share in the portable music player market? The iPod is still the 800-pound gorilla, but there will definitely be competition ... or does Apple have other plans to compensate?

The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

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7:30pm ET on Discovery

TOP 10 MOBILE DOWNLOADS

1. Poker Face Lady Gaga
2. Decoder Paramore
3. Live Your Life T.I. ft. Rihanna
4. Right Now (Na Na Na) Akon
5. Heartless Kanye West
6. Hot N Cold Katy Perry
7. Rock N' Roll Train AC/DC
8. Circus Britney Spears
9. Love Story Taylor Swift
10. My Life The Game

rogers.com/musicstore





Looks like Donna Martin will return to 90210 after all. Tori Spelling is in “final negotiations” to return to the world’s most famous zip code, a show rep confirmed to People magazine. **PEOPLE.COM**

Television

TV’s six degrees of separation

Intel**l**e**V**ision



Rick McGinnis

rick.mcginis@metronews.ca

ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER: This week’s TV news contains a string of items that seem to effortlessly

segue into each other, so who am I to be an obstacle to such elegance? First off is a Variety story on the latest feint by NBC at pretending it’s a network that cares about program-

ming, a drama about a man on his way to rock bottom who starts hearing music in his head that provides a clue to the direction he should be taking, at which point a new

piece of music takes its place. “I was trying to find a way to combine TV and music in an organic way,” said writer and creator Jared Bush. “What we come to realize in the show is this guy has been given an opportunity to start his life over, and this music will help him find a way to become truly happy.”

The show — which gives an explicit shout-out to the music supervisor who’ll have to dig up and clear the tunes for the storyline — has been given the simple but straightforward title Soundtrack, and actually sounds like a half-decent idea ...

QUITE UNLIKE ... Dancing To The Music In My Head is the new EP by Sanjaya Malakar, which has just been released. Does anyone remember Sanjaya Malakar? Two years is a long time in American Idol terms, and it’s hard not to look back on the more-hair-than-voice season six contestant as a symbol of our onetime irrational exuberance, like easy mortgages and high-risk mutual funds.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

GlobalStyle



Kenya Hunt

Read Kenya, exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle

WHICH BRINGS ME TO: Former Idol executive producer Nigel Lythgoe, expressing his disapproval of the addition of a fourth judge to the Idol panel this season. “At this stage when we have this dysfunctional family of Ryan, Randy, Paula and Simon,” Lythgoe told the National Ledger website, describing his reaction to the casting of songwriter Kara Dio-Guardi.

Entertainment in brief

TELEVISION
Howie Mandel tosses his hat into the hidden-camera arena with Howie Do It, a reasonably entertaining piece of whimsy. The show premieres on NBC on Friday, and simultaneously in Canada on Global Television.



Howie Mandel

TELEVISION
The return of Fox’s real-time thriller 24 has been notably muted. However, the customary two-night, four-hour kickoff on Sunday and Monday finds the series returning to its heart-in-your-throat best, replete with old villains, moral quandaries and political intrigue.



Kiefer Sutherland

REUTERS

FRIDAY

ED	C	B	S	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
1/9/09	2	CFRN	239 318	etalk	Hollywood	Raising the Bar "Pilot"		Ghost Whisperer (N)		Flashpoint "Eagle Two"		News (N)
	3	KHQ	- 370	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	Lipstick Jungle (N)		Lipstick Jungle (N)		Dateline NBC
	4	CBXT	- 307	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	Marketplace	Just for Laughs (N)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	6	KREM	- 372	News (N)	Hollywood	The Doctors (N)		Ghost Whisperer (N)		Flashpoint "Eagle Two"		NUMB3RS
	7	CKEM	241 347	Law & Order: SVU		Man Tracker		Survivorman		Lipstick Jungle		Your City
	8	CITV	240 339	ET Canada	Entertainment	NUMB3RS (HDTV) (N)		Howie Do It "Pilot" (N)		Friday Night Lights		News Hour
	12	CBXFT	119 705	Du cœur au ventre (SC)		Paquet voleur (HDTV) (N) (SC)		Zone doc (N) (SC)		Le Téléjournal et Les Nou		T.J. Alberta
	13	KXLY	- 371	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Wife Swap (N)		Supernanny (N)		20/20 (N)
	16	KAYU	- 373	The Simpsons	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Bruce Almighty ** (2003, Comedy)	Jim Carrey,			News (N)
	19	CHTV	-	The Insider (N)	E News	THS Investigates				20/20 (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
1/10/09	22	KSPS	- 374	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Wash. Week	McLaughlin	Bill Moyers Journal (N)		NOW on PBS	Being Served	Vicar of Dibley
	15	CBCTN	502	CBC News: The National		CBC News: The fifth estate		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		fifth estate
	54	CTVN	501 391	CTV Newsnet		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
	20	TSN	400 400	Basketball	SportsCentre		That's Hockey!	SportsCentre	Off the Record	Boxing Friday Night Fights. (HDTV)		
	23	net	408 418	NHL Hockey	San Jose Sharks at Edmonton Oilers. (HDTV) (Live)			Sportsnet Con.	Sportsnet Con.	Sportsnet Connected		Ult. Fighter
	47	SPEED	417 406	Barrett-Jackson		Barrett-Jackson		Pinks	Pass Time	SCCA Runoffs Formula Vee.		SCCA Runoffs
	94	SCORE	410 403	(6) WWE SmackDown!		Score Tonight		Hardcore Hockey Talk		WWE SmackDown!		
	14	YTV	552 543	iCarly	Prank Patrol	Scorpion	Aquamarine ** (2006, Comedy-Drama)	Sara Paxton.		(10:45) Falcon Beach		
	17	TREE	553 546	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Max & Ruby	Dragon	Backyardigans	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!
	45	FAM	557 541	Zoe 101	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Matilda *** (1996, Comedy)			You Wish! (2003, Fantasy)	A.J. Trauth.	
1/11/09	25	A&E	615 520	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami
	29	FOOD	603 561	Kylie Kwong	Gourmets	Diner, Drive-In	Diner, Drive-In	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares		Challenge Sandwiches.		Kylie Kwong
	32	DISC	520 505	Man vs. Wild "Siberia"		Dark Fellowships: The Vril		Daily Planet		Man vs. Wild "Siberia"		Project Earth
	38	SPIKE	628 584	Star Wars IV: A New Hope **** (1977, Science Fiction)	Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher.			MANswers	MANswers			GameTrailers
	43	SPACE	627 528	Supernatural		Forum: Battlestar Galactica		Wishmaster: The Prophecy Fulfilled * (2002, Horror)				Howling
	50	STAR	621 56	Popaganda		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ	etalk	The View (HDTV)		Popaganda
1/10/09	2	CFRN	239 318	NFL Football: NFC Divisional Playoff -- Cardinals at Panthers				Corner Gas	Corner Gas	Comedy Now John Wing.		News (N)
	3	KHQ	- 370	College Basketball		CSI: NY "Wasted"		Crusoe (HDTV)		Law & Order "Strike"		Law/Ord SVU
	4	CBXT	- 307	NHL Hockey		NHL Hockey	San Jose Sharks at Vancouver Canucks. (HDTV) (Live)			HNIC -- After Hours		
	6	KREM	- 372	News (N)	Scrubs	Cold Case		Game Show	Game Show	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		48 Hr. Mystery
	7	CKEM	241 347	Without a Trace		Less-Kind	Kaya	Christie's Revenge (2007, Drama)	Danielle Kind.			The City Show
	8	CITV	240 339	Sabrina's Law		Top Hour		Mob Stories		Go Deep "Fireboats"		News (N)
	12	CBXFT	119 705	Le Moment de vérité (SC)		3600 secondes d'extase (SC)		Dre Grey, leçons d'anatomie		Le Téléjournal	Humanima	Cover Girl
	13	KXLY	- 371	4 News at 6	Explorer TV	Entertainment Tonight		The Bachelor				True Beauty
	16	KAYU	- 373	NFL Football: NFC Divisional Playoff -- Cardinals at Panthers				Paid Program	Paid Program	House		News (N)
	19	CHTV	-	E News	The Soup (N)	The Haunting of Sorority Row (2007, Drama)				Show Yours	G-Spot	E News
1/11/09	22	KSPS	- 374	The Lawrence Welk Show		Ben-Hur **** (1959, Historical Drama)	Charlton Heston, Jack Hawkins, Stephen Boyd.					
	15	CBCTN	502	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	Doc Zone (HDTV)		Sat. Report	Fortune	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	Doc Zone
	54	CTVN	501 391	CTV Newsnet-Scott Laurie		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
	20	TSN	400 400	(6) Curling Casino Rama Skins Game -- Semifinal.				SportsCentre		NFL Films	NFL Primetime	Rodeo: PRCA
	23	net	408 418	English Premier League Soccer Teams TBA. (Live)				The Ultimate Fighter		Saturday Night Poker		Sportsnet Con.
	47	SPEED	417 406	Monster Jam (HDTV)		Monster Jam (HDTV)		Wrecked	Wrecked	Pinks	Pinks Outtakes	Unique Whips
	94	SCORE	410 403	Score on NFL	Footy Show	Score Update		BodogFight		Strikeforce		Final Score
	14	YTV	552 543	Kid vs. Kat		Team Galaxy	Team Galaxy	Zixx Level	Storm Hawks	Naruto	Bleach	Ghost
	17	TREE	553 546	Bucket-Dinos	Toopy & Binoo	Comfy Couch	Little Bear	Toy Castle	Dragon (DVS)	Backyardigans	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!
	45	FAM	557 541	Natural-Sadie	Flight 29 Down	That's-Raven	Zoe 101	Life Derek	Han. Montana	Little Big League ** (1994, Comedy)		
1/11/09	25	A&E	615 520	CSI: Miami "Bunk"		The Sopranos (HDTV)		The Sopranos (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami
	29	FOOD	603 561	Top Chef "Focus Group"		Hell's Kitchen		The F Word		Challenge		Top Chef
	32	DISC	520 505	Destroyed	Time Warp	Criss Angel Mindfreak		Guinea Pig (N)	Guinea Pig	Destroyed	Time Warp	Criss Angel
	38	SPIKE	628 584	Star Wars V: The Empire Strikes Back **** (1980, Science Fiction)	Mark Hamill.			Red Dawn ** (1984, Action)	Patrick Swayze.			
	43	SPACE	627 528	Fringe		The Chronicles of Riddick ** (2004, Science Fiction)	Vin Diesel.			John Carpenter's		
	50	STAR	621 56	Blush: Make-Up Artist		Britain's Next Top Model		Best Dressed	Fabulous Life	TMZ		Britains
1/11/09	2	CFRN	239 318	Desperate Housewives		The 66th Annual Golden Globe Awards (HDTV)	Achievement in film and TV industries.					News (N)
	3	KHQ	- 370	News	Best Zags	Golden Globes Red Carpet		The 66th Annual Golden Globe Awards (HDTV)				
	4	CBXT	- 307	Heartland (N) (DVS)		Dragon's Den (N)		Being Erica "Dr. Tom"		CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		fifth estate
	6	KREM	- 372	News (N)		To Be Announced		Million Dollar Password		Cold Case (HDTV) (N)		The Unit
	7	CKEM	241 347	2Half Men	The World Is Not Enough ** (1999, Action)	Pierce Brosnan, Sophie Marceau, Robert Carlyle.						Reviews
	8	CITV	240 339	16:9 Picture	The Simpsons	(8:01) Brothers & Sisters (N)		24 Tony Almeida is responsible for a terrifying threat. (N)				News (N)
	12	CBXFT	119 705	Découverte	Maurice Richard *** (2005, Biography)	Roy Dupuis, Patrice Robitaille. (SC)				Le Téléjournal	Studio 12 (SC)	
	13	KXLY	- 371	News	Cougar Bsktbl	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home		Desperate Housewives		Brothers
	16	KAYU	- 373	House "Need to Know"		The Simpsons	The Simpsons	24 Tony Almeida is responsible for a terrifying threat. (N)				News (N)
	19	CHTV	-	2009 Golden Globe Awards		Inside Hollywood		Extreme Makeover: Home		Fantastic Four ** (2005, Action)		
1/11/09	22	KSPS	- 374	Flying the Secret Sky		Nature (HDTV) (N) (DVS)		Masterpiece Classic "Tess of the D'Urbervilles" (DVS)				Mystery!
	15	CBCTN	502	CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		March of the Penguins *** (2005, Documentary)				CBC News: Sunday Night		March-Penguin
	54	CTVN	501 391	CTV Newsnet-Scott Laurie		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
	20	TSN	400 400	NHL Hockey: Blues at Oilers				SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		NFL Primetime	Motoring 2009	Rodeo: PRCA
	23	net	408 418	CHL Hockey: Teams TBA		World Combat League		World Combat League		Sportsnet Connected (HDTV)		Poker
	47	SPEED	417 406	Ultimate Factories (HDTV)		Pinks -- All Out		Wrecked	Wrecked	Wrecked	Wrecked	101 Cars-Drive
	94	SCORE	410 403	Strikeforce		World Cup of Poker		Poker Million Pound Challenge.		Final Score	Final Score	Final Score
	14	YTV	552 543	Alex Rider: Operation Stormbreaker ** (2006, Action)				SpongeBob	Prank Patrol	The Next Star		Adrenaline Proj
	17	TREE	553 546	Rolie Polie Olie	Mighty Mach	Bucket-Dinos	Toy Castle	Tipi Tales	Dragon (DVS)	Backyardigans	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!
	45	FAM	557 541	Natural-Sadie	Flight 29 Down	That's-Raven	Zoe 101	Life Derek	Han. Montana	Curly Sue *** (1991, Comedy-Drama)		
1/11/09	25	A&E	615 520	CSI: Miami "Sunblock"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami
	29	FOOD	603 561	Iron Chef America		The Next Food Network Star		The Heat	The Heat	The Next Great Chef		Iron Chef Am.
	32	DISC	520 505	Secrets of the Crystal Cave		MythBusters (N)		Anthony Bourdain		Fireball of Tutankhamun		Secrets-Crystal
	38	SPIKE	628 584	Star Wars VI: Return of the Jedi *** (1983, Science Fiction)	Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher.			MANswers	MANswers			MANswers
	43	SPACE	627 528	Eureka		Torchwood "Adrift"		(9:05) She (2001, Adventure)	Ophélie Winter. (DVS)			(11:15) Gor
	50	STAR	621 56	Look-A-Like	Look-A-Like	Girl Next Door	In Fashion	Star Yearbook		Scott Baio, 45	Old Skool	Girl Next Door

SATURDAY

ED	C	B	S	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00					
1/10/09	2	CFRN	239 318	NFL Football: NFC Divisional Playoff -- Cardinals at Panthers				Corner Gas	Corner Gas	Comedy Now John Wing.		News (N)					
	3	KHQ	- 370	College Basketball		CSI: NY "Wasted"		Crusoe (HDTV)		Law & Order "Strike"		Law/Ord SVU					
	4	CBXT	- 307	NHL Hockey		NHL Hockey San Jose Sharks at Vancouver Canucks. (HDTV) (Live)						HNIC -- After Hours					
	6	KREM	- 372	News (N)	Scrubs	Cold Case		Game Show	Game Show	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		48 Hr. Mystery					
	7	CKEM	241 347	Without a Trace		Less-Kind		Kaya	Christie's Revenge (2007, Drama)		Danielle Kind.	The City Show					
	8	CITV	240 339	Sabrina's Law		Zero Hour		Mob Stories		Go Deep "Fireboats"		News (N)					
	12	CBXFT	119 705	Le Moment de vérité (SC)		3600 secondes d'extase (SC)		Dre Grey, leçons d'anatomie		Le Téléjournal	Humanima	Cover Girl					
	13	KXLY	- 371	4 News at 6		Explorer TV		Entertainment Tonight		The Bachelor		True Beauty					
	16	KAYU	- 373	NFL Football: NFC Divisional Playoff -- Cardinals at Panthers				Paid Program		Paid Program		House	News (N)				
	19	CHTV	-	E News		The Soup (N)		The Haunting of Sorority Row (2007, Drama)			Show Yours		G-Spot	E News			
1/11/09	22	KSPS	- 374	The Lawrence Welk Show		Ben-Hur ★★★★★ (1959, Historical Drama) Charlton Heston, Jack Hawkins, Stephen Boyd.											
	15	CBCTN	502	Sat. Report		Mansbridge		Doc Zone (HDTV)		Sat. Report		Fortune	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	Doc Zone		
	54	CTVN	501 391	CTV Newsnet-Scott Laurie		News		CTV Newsnet		News		CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News		
	20	TSN	400 400	(6) Curling Casino Rama Skins Game -- Semifinal.													
	23	net	408 418	English Premier League Soccer Teams TBA. (Live)				SportsCentre		NFL Films		NFL Primetime		Rodeo: PRCA			
	47	SPEED	417 406	Monster Jam (HDTV)		Monster Jam (HDTV)		Wrecked		Wrecked		Pinks		Pinks Outtakes	Unique Whips		
	94	SCORE	410 403	Score on NFL		Footy Show		Score Update		BodogFight		Strikeforce		Final Score			
	14	YTV	552 543	Kid vs. Kat		Kid vs. Kat		Team Galaxy		Team Galaxy		Zixx Level		Storm Hawks	Naruto	Bleach	Ghost
	17	TREE	553 546	Bucket-Dinos		Toopy & Binoo		Comfy Couch		Little Bear		Toy Castle		Dragon (DVS)	Backyardigans	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!
	45	FAM	557 541	Natural-Sadie		Flight 29 Down		That's-Raven		Zoey 101		Life Derek		Han. Montana		Little Big League ★★ (1994, Comedy)	
1/12/09	25	A&E	615 520	CSI: Miami "Bunk"		The Sopranos (HDTV)		The Sopranos (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami					
	29	FOOD	603 561	Top Chef "Focus Group"		Hell's Kitchen		The F Word		Challenge		Top Chef					
	32	DISC	520 505	Destroyed		Time Warp		Criss Angel Mindfreak		Guinea Pig (N)		Guinea Pig		Destroyed	Time Warp	Criss Angel	
	38	SPIKE	628 584	Star Wars V: The Empire Strikes Back ★★★★★ (1980, Science Fiction) Mark Hamill.								Red Dawn ★★ (1984, Action) Patrick Swayze.					
	43	SPACE	627 528	Fringe		The Chronicles of Riddick ★★ (2004, Science Fiction) Vin Diesel.								John Carpenter's			
	50	STAR	621 56	Blush: Make-Up Artist		yritain's Next Top Model		Best Dressed		Fabulous Life		TMZ		Britains			
	53	STAR	621 56	Blush: Make-Up Artist		yritain's Next Top Model		Best Dressed		Fabulous Life		TMZ		Britains			
	53	STAR	621 56	Blush: Make-Up Artist		yritain's Next Top Model		Best Dressed		Fabulous Life		TMZ		Britains			
	53	STAR	621 56	Blush: Make-Up Artist		yritain's Next Top Model		Best Dressed		Fabulous Life		TMZ		Britains			
	53	STAR	621 56	Blush: Make-Up Artist		yritain's Next Top Model		Best Dressed		Fabulous Life		TMZ		Britains			

Kanye's mother's surgeon sentenced

The plastic surgeon who operated on Kanye West's mother the day before she died has been sentenced to a year in jail for drunken driving, according to the Associated Press. USMAGAZINE.COM

**Going Out****Mix of Six****HOT & HAPPENING WEEKEND EVENTS**For more great events, visit: metronews.ca/entertainment**Winter Festival**

When: Saturday & Sunday
Where: 9210 - 118 Ave.

Alberta Avenue will be heating up this weekend with the Deep Freeze Byzantine Winter Festival. The festival will fill the area with winter activities like skating, curling and ice sculptures, lit up by a "Winter Light" warming tent, that will fill the air with live music and theatrical performances. Admission is free.

Punk Rock Saturdays

When: Saturday, 9 p.m.
Where: New City Likwid Lounge, 10081 Jasper Ave.

This Saturday at the New City Likwid Lounge, catch local rockabilly band, the Raygun Cowboys, who are about to set out on an eastern Canada tour. Admission is by donation, and at no set price. Visit newcitycompound.com.

Edmonton Bridal Fair

When: Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Where: Shaw Conference Centre, 9797 Jasper Ave.

The premiere event for brides-to-be runs on Sunday at the Shaw Conference Centre. The show will feature fashion shows, prizes, and a sale of discounted wedding gowns. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. For more information, visit bridalevents.ca.

Sustainable Living tours

When: Every Saturday until March, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Where: The Riverdale NetZero Energy House, 9926 87 St. NW

Step into the future of sustainable living at the Riverdale NetZero Energy House, which is open for self-guided tours every Saturday, and every Saturday after until March. Admission is free. Visit riverdalenetzero.ca.

Free Lululemon yoga session

When: Sunday, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Where: Kingsway Lululemon, 109 St. and Princess Elizabeth Ave.

Namaste! The staff at Lululemon are welcoming one and all to a free yoga session this Sunday at the Kingsway Lululemon location (109 St. and Princess Elizabeth Ave.)

Hollywood nominates best '08 film scripts

Hollywood screenwriters named nominees for 2008's best film scripts this week with a few surprises among the movies vying for honours ahead of the industry's highest awards — the Oscars in February.

The Writers Guild of America nominated for best original screenplay Milk, written by Dustin Lance Black and telling of the life of slain gay rights activist Harvey Milk, along with Robert Siegel's The Wrestler, which looks at the life of a faded sports star.

Those writers will be joined by veteran Woody Allen with romantic comedy Vicky Cristina Barcelona, brothers Joel and Ethan Coen for another comedy, Burn After Reading, and Tom McCarthy with immigration tale The Visitor.

In the best adapted screenplay category, the Writers Guild nominated Eric Roth for The Curious Case of Benjamin Button, about a man who ages backward, John Patrick Shanley with sex



The Writers Guild of America nominated Milk, starring Sean Penn, for best original screenplay.

abuse drama Doubt and Simon Beaufoy for Slumdog Millionaire, which tells of a young Indian man who competes to win a fortune on a television game show.

Joining those film writers in the adapted screenplay group are brothers Jonathan and Christopher Nolan for their Batman movie, The Dark Knight, and Peter Morgan with Frost/Nixon, which recounts the interviews by

British TV host David Frost of disgraced U.S. President Richard Nixon.

Nominees for awards from the Writers Guild often provide industry watchers with clues as to which films will compete for Oscars, the world's top movie honours, because many guild members also belong to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which gives out the Oscars. **REUTERS**

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot**Batman**

1 The people have voted and The Dark Knight swept through the People's Choice Awards. The latest Batman movie picked up all five awards it was nominated, including favourite movie.

**Revamped Golden Globe statue**

2 The Golden Globe statue has a new look. The new statuettes were unveiled at a press conference on Tuesday. The Golden Globe Awards will be on this Sunday.

Fight on New Year's

3 Lindsay Lohan and Samantha Ronson rang in the New Year with a bang, literally. The two stars were seen fighting at Miami International Airport over the holidays before flying back to L.A., reports tmz.com.

Daredevil couple's baby

4 The media is abuzz with news of Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck's newest addition to the family. Their second daughter was born Tuesday in Los Angeles, reports people.com.

**No Angie vs. Jen?**

5 Brad Pitt has announced that there is no feud happening between his current girlfriend and ex-wife, reports intouchweekly.com.

Twilight's next movie

6 For Twilight fans the cast for the sequel, New Moon, are trickling in. Everyone's favourite vampire Robert Pattinson will be back, as well as Kristen Stewart, reports people.com.

Celebrity Apprentice '09

7 Donald Trump is back with another new round of celebrities in the second season of this show, reports tvguide.com. Guests include comedian Tom Green, musician Clint Black and Olympian Scott Hamilton.

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TV reality stars Heidi Montag, Spencer Pratt, Kendra Wilkinson and Kim Kardashian will make appearances on the Jan. 12 episode of *How I Met Your Mother*. EONLINE.COM

Celebrity Buzz

No Gossip Girl role for Nicole

CAREER Sorry Upper East Siders: Nicole Richie won't be joining the cast of *Gossip Girl* any time soon, *us-magazine.com* says.

Richie's rep tells the website that it's "not true" she's planning to guest star on the CW show. Rumors began after a New York newspaper reported that Richie "loves *Gossip Girl* and she wants a really b—hy, juicy role."

Richie played a bully on NBC's *Chuck* earlier this season. She's currently focusing on her House of Harlow jewelry line.



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Piven's illness may be fishy

CAREER The folks behind Jeremy Piven's aborted Broadway run in *Speed the Plow* may be looking to recoup their investment. Piven abruptly left the show last month because of "mercury poisoning" from eating too much sushi. To the investors, the whole thing sounds fishy, according to the New York Post.

Producers for the show revealed that Piven has been examined by another doctor to get a second opinion, and if it turns out he's playing sick, they may be able to



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Amy serenades fling

RELATIONSHIP Amy Winehouse serenaded her new man in a hotel bar on Wednesday, *femalefirst.co.uk* reports.

The troubled singer dedicated her impromptu performance to budding actor Josh Bowman at a Caribbean hotel bar.

A guest at the hotel revealed: "When she finished playing, she rushed over to Josh and was hugging and kissing him. Her voice was

amazing. Josh was obviously impressed. They were all over each other."

Amy played the piano and sang to the 25 guests in the early hours of Wednesday morning.

Josh, 21, has denied rumours he is romantically involved with the married star after pictures of the couple cuddling in St Lucia were published this week.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

ScarJo's Spice goals

PEOPLE Scarlett Johansson is a "Stay-at-home-and-veg Spice," reports *femalefirst.co.uk*

The 24-year-old actress admits she felt terrible watching husband, Canadian Ryan Reynolds, compete in the New York Marathon last year because she doesn't have the energy to do it herself.

She said: "I went to some random spot and saw everybody going past. It was really incredible. I'm a horrible runner — I can barely put one foot in front of the other."

"I saw that Jennifer Lopez did a triathlon and I'm like, 'Damn, girl, you just had twins!' It's amazing."

Referring to the nicknames the Spice Girls gave themselves — Posh Spice, Ginger Spice, Sporty Spice, Baby Spice and Scary Spice — Scarlett added: "I'm so not a Sporty Spice — I'm a stay-at-home-and-veg Spice."



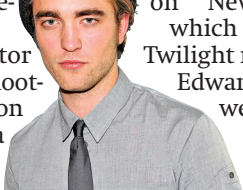
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Pattinson pulls out of planned role

CAREER Robert Pattinson has pulled out of a planned movie role, *femalefirst.co.uk* reports.

The British actor was due to start shooting *Parts per Billion* alongside Olivia Thirlby and Rosario

Dawson later this month but has had to withdraw due to his commitments on *New Moon*, in which he reprises his Twilight role as vampire Edward Cullen, the website says.



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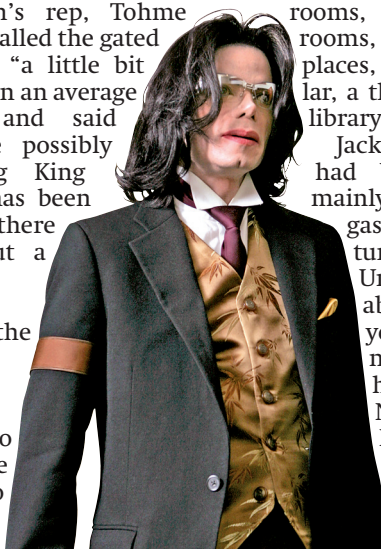
King of Bel Air?

PEOPLE Bel Air has a new, not-so-fresh prince, *eonline.com* reports.

Michael Jackson is currently holed up in the tiny Los Angeles neighborhood after inking a year-long lease on a \$100,000 US-per-month French chateau built in 2002, the website says.

Jackson's rep, Tohme Tohme, called the gated property "a little bit more than an average home" and said that the possibly returning King of Pop has been living there for about a month.

Thome said the Thriller singer moved back to L.A. to be closer to Hollywood and showbiz in general.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Mario dishes on his first kiss with Fergie

PEOPLE While Stacy (Fergie) Ferguson and actor Josh Duhamel make final preparations for their weekend nuptials, *Extra* host Mario Lopez can't wait to share in their happy day, *people.com* reports.

And Lopez has a special bond with Fergie: Both were one other's first kiss in the '80s, when they starred on *Kids Incorporated*.

"It's a true story. I'm very proud of my first kiss," says Lopez. "She says there

was no tongue!"

But there was a romance, albeit brief, for the youngsters. "I wrote her a note and, as she likes to point out, I was very smooth at 10 because I bought her perfume," Lopez says, laughing. "I think the gesture was pretty good for a kid."

Once the young romance fizzled, a friendship blossomed. "I'm happy to say Stacy has stayed just as sweet as when we were kids," Lopez says.



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I'll find Mr. Right, Ellen tells Anne

PEOPLE Having tiptoed around her dating life, Anne Hathaway was cornered by Ellen DeGeneres on the subject of Mr. Right, *people.com* reports.

"If you need someone, I will find you a boyfriend," the TV host told the actress on the *Ellen DeGeneres Show*. "I'm really good at it."

"Did you see how nervous I just got?" responded Hathaway.

"You don't even have to date," advises DeGeneres.

"You can go straight to commitment."



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Kidman can't watch own films

PEOPLE Nicole Kidman can't bear to watch herself onscreen. The actress claims the only films of hers she has watched are those directed by Baz Luhrmann. "I've really only seen (*Moulin Rouge*) and (*Australia*) in my whole career," Kidman told Australian radio station 2dayFM.

Kidman recounted how uncomfortable the Australia premiere made her: "I can't look at this movie and be proud of what I've done ... It's just impossible for me to connect to it emotionally at all."



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Today
Partly cloudy
-8°C / -26°C



Saturday
Partly cloudy
-2°C / -9°C

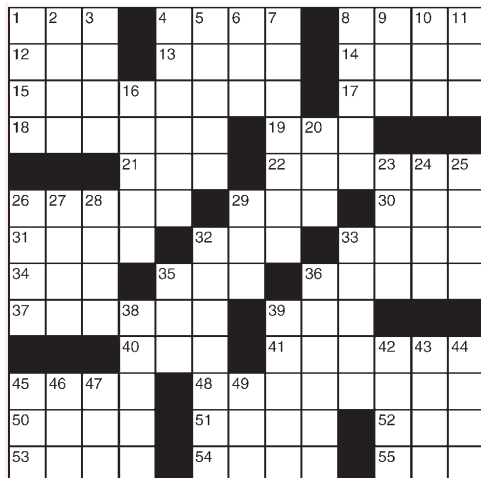


Sunday
Flurries
-6°C / -10°C



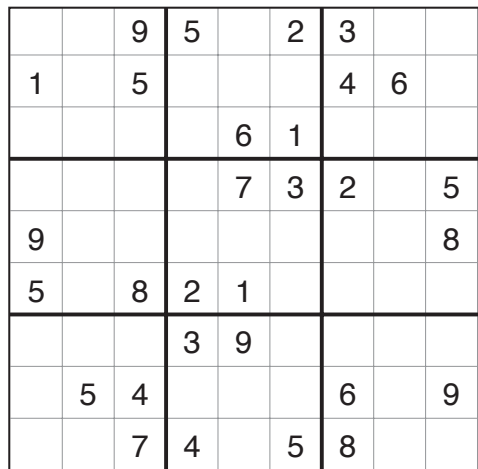
Michele McDougall, Weather Specialist & Host - Breakfast Television

"My favourite part is reporting the weather. It fascinates me, and as we know around here, it's always changing, keeping forecasters on their toes!" **WEEKDAYS AT 6 A.M.**



Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



Crossword across

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Wool wearer | actress | 48 Road Runner's call |
| 4 Out of harm's way | 30 One of the kin | 50 Frizzy do |
| 8 Forehead | 31 "Give a —, don't pollute" | 51 Tardy |
| 12 Prune | 32 Oppositionist | 52 Microbrewery output |
| 13 Mountain goat | 33 Minor players | 53 Verse |
| 14 Discourteous | 34 Past | 54 Formerly, formerly |
| 15 Somewhat buried (in) | 35 Candle matter | 55 Big Apple letters |
| 17 Prayer closer | 36 Hiawatha's craft | |
| 18 Breastbones | 37 Flock loser | |
| 19 Legislation | 39 Scratch | |
| 21 Jewel | 40 Pod occupant | |
| 22 Dormant | 41 Wears away | |
| 26 Mixed metal | 45 Poolroom supply | |
| 29 Marceau char- | | |

Crossword down

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Benevolent herd? | 23 Black, to Browning? | e.g. |
| 2 Refuses to | 24 Therefore | 38 — salts |
| 3 Duel tool | 25 Sit for a shot | 39 Bumps into |
| 4 Director Lumet | 26 Moby's pursuer | 42 Campus VIP |
| 5 Perpendicular, at sea | 27 Trademark symbol | 43 Slithery |
| 6 Retainer | 28 Aerobic maneuver | 44 Detail, for short |
| 7 Clarify | 29 Carton | 45 Upper limit |
| 8 Barroom set-to | 32 Skilled | 46 E.T.'s vessel |
| 9 Pirates' quaff | 33 Ersatz chocolate | 47 Before |
| 10 "— on a Grecian Urn" | 35 Teensy | 49 Corn spike |
| 11 Rune equivalent to a W | 36 | |
| 16 Grain disease | Kidderminster, | |
| 20 Cleo's slayer | | |

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:	
Under 13 min	Genius
13-17 min	Smart
17-21 min	Not bad
21-25 min	Keep practising
25+ min	

Metro Recipe of the Day



Mackerel with Dill Mayonnaise

INGREDIENTS:

A small bunch of fresh dill
1 1/2 lb (680 g) new potatoes
Salt
1 tsp (5 ml) mixed peppercorns
Oil for greasing
4 mackerel fillets, 6 oz (170 g) each
4 tbsp (60 ml) mayonnaise
4 tbsp (60 ml) natural Greek yogurt
1 tbsp (15 ml) capers

GARNISH:

1 lemon

METHOD:

1. Put kettle of water on to boil. Rinse and dry dill, remove fine fronds from stalks, and set both aside separately.
2. Scrub new potatoes and put into large saucepan with some salt and the dill stalks. Cover potatoes with boiling water from kettle, return to boil, and cook for 15–20 minutes.
3. Meanwhile, preheat grill to high. Crush peppercorns with mortar and pestle or rolling pin.

Lightly oil grill rack, lay fillets on it, skin sides down, and sprinkle with peppercorns.
4. Grill fillets for 5 minutes, then turn over, reduce heat to medium, and grill for another 5 minutes, or until skins are blistered. Turn over once more and grill for a further 2 minutes.
5. While fish is cooking, blend mayonnaise and yogurt in a bowl. Chop dill fronds and capers, and mix in. Cut lemon into wedges and set aside.
6. When mackerel is cooked, sprinkle flesh sides with salt. Drain potatoes and remove dill stalks. Serve mackerel with potatoes, dill, mayonnaise and lemon wedges.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Concentrate on solving a confidentiality issue. Be kind to a worryingly inconsistent person. Accusations about excessive spending will disturb you.



TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Being protective will provoke an odd response. Someone's complaints will be irritating. Turning down a greedy relative gives you self-respect.



LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A gloomy guy is working out a solution. A careless observer reminds you of the past. A starving person's trustworthiness will shock you.



SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Meditate to understand a tedious caller. Don't take advantage of anyone. A manager can clear the air.



GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Don't thwart any plans to make money. A cantankerous guy leaves annoying messages. Things will fall into place at home.



SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
A persuasive guy inspires a spectacular argument. An older person will disturb your sleep. Hope arises for a daring action.



CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Use good manners with an insatiable friend. Listening well takes care of a problem. An opportunity is discovered by mistake.



CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
You can help a secretly sad woman. Don't buy new computer equipment yet. You'll face a standoff with an ailing person.



LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
You'll be the winner of a battle with bureaucracy. A private rendezvous will be maddening. Take no notice of someone's feigned indifference.



AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
A word of encouragement will perk you right up. A friend will tell you anything at this point. The chance of a lifetime will be presented.



VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Stand alone if you want to see the big picture. A hypocrite causes a misunderstanding. An intimidating person supports your ideas.



PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
A futuristic vision is at stake. You'll inspire some good ideas. A man's backstabbing words will be held up to ridicule.



This day in history

JAN. 9, 475: Byzantine Emperor Zeno is forced to flee his capital at Constantinople.
JAN. 9, 1349: The Jewish population of Basel, Switzerland, believed by the residents to be the cause of the ongoing bubonic plague, were rounded up and incinerated.
JAN. 9, 1431: Judges' investigations for the trial of Joan of Arc begin in Rouen, France, the seat of the English occupation government.
JAN. 9, 1799: British Prime Minister William Pitt introduces income tax to raise funds for the war against Napoleon.

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